

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-29. (Canceled)

Claim 30. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving, at a local service module, one or more multiplexed channel signals from a headend, the one or more multiplexed channel signals comprising a plurality of video channels;

receiving, ~~via cabling~~ at the local service module, a channel selection request for one of the plurality of video channels;

converting to a predetermined frequency, by one of a plurality of converters in the local service module, the one of the plurality of video channels corresponding to the channel selection request; ~~and~~

combining the converted one of the plurality of video channels with at least one other video channel from the one or more multiplexed channel signals into a multiplexed signal for transmission ~~via the cabling~~;

communicating a customer request for interactive mode from a local service module to the headend via a customer management system; and

communicating a channel request for non-local broadcast channels from a local service module to the headend via the customer management system.

Claim 31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 wherein the predetermined frequency is a first predetermined frequency and further comprising:

converting, to a second predetermined frequency using another one of the plurality of converters, the at least one other video channel from the one or more multiplexed channel signals.

Claim 32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 further comprising:

filtering, for reception by a video displaying apparatus, at least one of the video channels within the multiplexed signal.

Claim 33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 wherein the channel selection request is received from a customer.

Claim 34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33 wherein the channel selection request identifies the customer.

Claim 35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 further comprising:
demultiplexing the one or more multiplexed channel signals at the local service module.

Claim 36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 wherein at least one of the one or more multiplexed channel signals is received from the following: a personal video recorder, a video on demand server, a personal computer, or a DOCSIS frequency converter.

Claim 37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36 wherein the channel selection request includes at least one command to control one or more of the following: the personal video recorder, the video on demand server, the personal computer, or the DOCSIS frequency converter.

Claim 38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 wherein:
the predetermined frequency is one of a plurality of predetermined frequencies; and
the multiplexed signal is transmitted to a plurality of room interface units, each unit being associated with one of the plurality of predetermined frequencies.

Claim 39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38 wherein the channel selection request is received from one of the plurality of room interface units.

Claim 40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38 wherein at least one of the plurality of room interface units includes authorization information that authorizes display of the one of the plurality of channels and the method further comprises:
obtaining authorization from the at least one of the plurality of room interface units to

convert the one of the plurality of video channels.

Claim 41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 wherein at least one of the plurality of converters is a programmable converter.

Claim 42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 wherein at least one of the plurality of converters is a frequency converter.

Claim 43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 wherein another local service module converts a video channel from the plurality of video channels to the predetermined frequency.

Claim 44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43 wherein the local service module utilizes frequencies for the plurality of converters in the local service module that are identical to frequencies utilized by a plurality of converters in the another local service module.

Claim 45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 wherein the channel selection request includes a DOCSIS return channel signal for transmission to the headend.

Claim 46. (Currently Amended) A local service module adapted to receive one or more multiplexed channel signals comprising a plurality of video channels, and to transmit a multiplexed signal, the service module comprising:

- a microprocessor adapted to receive a channel selection request for one of the plurality of video channels;

- a plurality of converters adapted to convert to a predetermined frequency at least one of the plurality of video channels corresponding to the channel selection request; and

- a combiner adapted to combine the converted one of the plurality of video channels with at least one other video channel into the multiplexed signal; and wherein the local service module is in communication with a customer

management system, the customer management system operable to to communicate a customer request for interactive mode from a local service module to the headend, and to communicate a channel request for non-local broadcast channels from a local service module to the headend.

Claim 47. (Previously Presented) The local service module of claim 46 wherein the local service module further comprises:

an input diplexer that separates a DOCSIS channel from the one or more multiplexed channel signals.

Claim 48. (Previously Presented) The local service module of claim 46 wherein the local service module further comprises:

an output diplexer that separates a DOCSIS channel from the one or more multiplexed channel signals.

Claim 49. (Previously Presented) The local service module of claim 46 wherein at least one of the plurality of converters is a programmable converter.

Claim 50. (Previously Presented) The local service module of claim 46 wherein at least one of the plurality of converters is a frequency converter.

Claim 51. (Previously Presented) The local service module of claim 50 wherein the converted one of the plurality of video channels is provided to at least one bandpass filter.

Claim 52. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 46 wherein the local service module further comprises:

a power divider adapted to divide the multiplexed channel signal into a plurality of identical multiplexed channel signals, one for each of the plurality of converters.

Claim 53. (Currently Amended) A cable distribution system, comprising:

a plurality of local service modules to receive one or more multiplexed channel signals comprised of one or more video channels, a selected one or more of the video channels being provided to one or more of a plurality of converters in one of the local service modules for conversion into at least one predetermined frequency for combination with another video channel into a multiplexed signal; **and**

a plurality of interface units associated with the plurality of local service modules, each of the plurality of interface units to receive the multiplexed signal and filtering one of the one or more video channels from the multiplexed signal for a video displaying apparatus; **and**
a customer management system operable to communicate a customer request for interactive mode from a local service module to the headend, and to communicate a channel request for non-local broadcast channels from a local service module to the headend.

Claim 54. (Currently Amended) The cable distribution system of claim 53 further comprising:

a headend to receive signals from a plurality of video sources, to multiplex the signals into the ~~into the~~ one or more multiplexed ~~channels-channel~~ signals, and to transmit the one or more multiplexed channel signals to one or more of the plurality of local service modules.

Claim 55. (Cancelled)

Claim 56. (Previously Presented) The cable distribution system of claim 55 further comprising:

a database in communication with the processor, the database storing customer viewing preferences.

Claim 57. (Previously Presented) The cable distribution system of claim 53 wherein the headend is a regional headend.